

**CLAIMS****WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A seam closing apparatus for use in sealing a duct seam having an outwardly extending sealing portion and a lower fold, said seam closing apparatus comprising:
  - a handle portion having a power actuation trigger;
  - a first roller for engaging said outwardly extending sealing portion of said duct seam;
  - a second roller for engaging said lower fold of said duct seam; and
  - wherein operation of said power actuation trigger causes said first roller to rotate in a first direction, thereby flattening said outwardly extending sealing portion of said duct seam.
2. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
  - operation of said power actuation trigger causes said second roller to rotate in a second direction, said second direction being opposite to said first direction.
3. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
  - said second roller includes an annular groove formed thereon for capturing said lower fold of said duct seam.
4. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
  - said first roller is eccentrically formed.

5. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

said first roller is mounted to an operation end of said seam closing apparatus; and

said first roller includes an angled profile such that a diameter of said first roller is not uniform.

6. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein:

said first roller and said second roller share a common drive source.

7. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said first and said second rollers are rotatably mounted to an operation end of said seam closing apparatus; and

an idler handle is pivotably connected to said operation end wherein said second roller may be selectively engaged via operation of said idler roller.

8. The seam closing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein:

said idler roller is operatively connected to said second roller such that pivoting of said idler roller causes said second roller to move from a first non-engaging position to a second engaging position.

9. A hand-held seam closing apparatus for use in sealing a duct seam having an outwardly extending sealing portion and a lower fold, said seam closing apparatus comprising:

a handle portion having a power actuation trigger for selectively enabling operation of said hand-held seam closing apparatus;

a pair of opposing rollers rotatably mounted upon a distal end of said hand-held seam closing apparatus; and

wherein operation of said power actuation trigger causes said one of said pair of opposing rollers to rotate in a first direction.

10. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

operation of said power actuation trigger causes said pair of opposing rollers to each rotate in opposing directions to one another.

11. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

one of said opposing rollers includes an annular groove formed thereon for capturing said lower fold of said duct seam.

12. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

the other of said pair of opposing rollers is eccentrically formed.

13. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein:

said other of said opposing rollers is mounted to a planar mounting surface on said distal end; and

said other of said opposing rollers includes an angled profile such that a diameter of said other of said opposing rollers increases in an axial direction extending outwardly from said planar surface of said distal end.

14. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein:

said opposing rollers each share a common drive source.

15. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising:

an idler handle pivotably mounted to said distal end; and

wherein one of said opposing rollers may be selectively engaged with said duct seam via operation of said idler roller.

16. The hand-held seam closing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein:

said idler roller is operatively connected to one of said opposing rollers such that pivoting of said idler roller causes one of said opposing rollers to move from a first non-engaging position away from said duct seam to a second engaging position in contact with said duct seam.

17. A method for sealing a duct seam having an outwardly extending sealing portion and a lower fold, said method comprising the steps of:

rotatably mounting a pair of opposing rollers upon a distal end of a hand-held seam closing apparatus, said distal end having a first planar surface and a second planar surface disposed thereon;

orienting one of said pair of opposing rollers on said first planar surface;

orienting the other of said pair of opposing rollers on said second planar surface, said first planar surface and said second planar surface being discontinuous;

engaging one of said pair of opposing rollers with said outwardly extending sealing portion of said duct seam; and

actuating said hand-held seam closing apparatus to cause said one of said pair of opposing rollers to rotate in a first direction.

18. The method for sealing a duct seam according to claim 17, said method further comprising the steps of:

actuating said hand-held seam closing apparatus to cause said pair of opposing rollers to each rotate in opposing directions to one another.

19. The method for sealing a duct seam according to claim 17, said method further comprising the steps of:

forming an annular groove on one of said pair of opposing rollers for capturing said lower fold of said duct seam therein.

20. The method for sealing a duct seam according to claim 19, said method further comprising the steps of:

forming said other of said opposing rollers to include an angled profile such that a diameter of said other of said opposing rollers increases in an axial direction extending outwardly from said first and said second planar surfaces of said distal end.